Problems faced by investors in mining sector

†3045. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investors in mining sector have drawn Government's attention towards the problems being faced by them in this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the flight rules in order to arrange for air survey by the companies; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to remove the difficulties being faced in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKER PRASAD): (a) and (b) Recently, a tripartite meeting of Central Government, State Governments and investors in the mining sector was held for possible redressal of problems faced by the investors. The issues raised by the investors related to simplification of procedure for grant of permission for airborne geophysical surveys, problems in gaining access to geophysical data etc.

(c) and (d) One of the issues raised by the investors regarding simplification of procedure for grant of permission for airborne geophysical surveys related to expediting the clearances for aerial flying and lowering the permissible limits for such flying. The issues raised were noted by the representative of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and it was decided that efforts will be made to reduce the time taken for disposal of applications. However, DGCA has informed that in view of the safety and security requirements, there is no proposal to change the Aircraft Rules, 1937 pertaining to aerial surveys.

Survey for coal deposits in Kanhan and Pench Region

†3046. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: : Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited had conducted a survey for coals from Amarwada to Shivpuri in Kanhan and Pench region and had found it to be largest reservoir of coal in Asia;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.